

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
FY17 RMA-High Tunnels**

Program: AMA 2014	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY17 RMA-High Tunnels		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15 Point(s)
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	15 Point(s)
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	5 Point(s)
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement conservation practices which:	
2. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	10 Point(s)
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	5 Point(s)
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from on-farm agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
3. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15 Point(s)

3. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO ₂ (Carbon Dioxide), CH ₄ (Methane), and N ₂ O (Nitrous Oxide)?	15 Point(s)
3. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	5 Point(s)
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15 Point(s)
4. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	5 Point(s)
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	15 Point(s)
5. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	10 Point(s)
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
6. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
6. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	5 Point(s)
6. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	10 Point(s)
6. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	10 Point(s)
6. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	5 Point(s)
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15 Point(s)

7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP?	10 Point(s)
7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	5 Point(s)
8. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	5 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Wildlife - Will the proposed project improve habitat for at least one: (Answer Yes to only one of the following 1-2)	
1. Species listed under the ESA as threatened or endangered?	25 Point(s)
2. Species of greatest conservation need listed in the draft Utah Wildlife Action Plan that is other than an ESA T&E species	15 Point(s)
Weeds - Will the proposed project contribute to: (Answer Yes to only one of the following 3-4)	
3. The control of all invasive species present on the offered acres?	50 Point(s)
4. The control of one invasive specie present on the offered acres?	25 Point(s)
Water Quality - Will the proposed project improve water quality by reducing a TMDL impairment and is located: (Answer Yes to only one of the following 5-7)	

5. Contiguous to or less than 1320 feet from the impaired water body?	50 Point(s)
6. 1321 to 2640 feet from the impaired water body?	30 Point(s)
7. 2641 to 5280 feet from the impaired water body?	15 Point(s)
Grazing Lands - Will the proposed project result in a change in the Grazing Response Index score of: (Answer Yes to only one of the following 8-11)	
8. 3 to 4	25 Point(s)
9. 2 to 2.9	20 Point(s)
10. 1 to 1.9	15 Point(s)
11. 0 to 0.9	10 Point(s)
Grazing Lands - Will the proposed project result in a Grazing Response Index score of: (Answer Yes to only one of the following 12-15)	
12. 3 to 4	25 Point(s)
13. 2 to 2.9	20 Point(s)
14. 1 to 1.9	15 Point(s)
15. 0 to 0.9	10 Point(s)
Pollinator Habitat - Will the proposed project increase the number of flowering plants in the planning area by: (Answer Yes to only one of the following 16-18)	
16. Three or more species per season (spring, summer, and fall).	25 Point(s)
17. Two species per season (spring, summer, and fall).	15 Point(s)
18. One specie per season (spring, summer, and fall).	5 Point(s)
Soil Health - Will the proposed project result in a change in Soil Conditioning Index of: (Answer Yes to only one of the following 19-20)	
19. 0.5 or greater	50 Point(s)
20. 0.08 to 0.49	25 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
General Questions	

1. Will the Seasonal High Tunnel be installed where specialty commodity crops are currently grown (Refer to USDA Specialty Commodity Crop Definitions)?	75 Point(s)
2. Is this the applicant's first high tunnel contracted with NRCS?	30 Point(s)
3. Will Crops be grown outside of the normal production period? (Feb.-Apr. and/or Oct.-Dec.)	55 Point(s)
Permits (answer Yes to only one of the following 5 or 6) Are all building permits from the county or city in place at time of ranking?	
4. Yes or Not Applicable	15 Point(s)
5. No	-100 Point(s)
Direct Marketing (answer Yes to only one of the following 7-10) What percentage of produce will be sold at farmers markets, road side stands, donations to local food banks, or other direct sales/donations?	
6. <25%	10 Point(s)
7. 25-50%	20 Point(s)
8. 50-75%	30 Point(s)
9. >75%	45 Point(s)
Frost Free Season (Answer YES to only one of the following 11-14)	
10. Between 80 to 100 days	80 Point(s)
11. Between 100 to 120 days	60 Point(s)
12. Between 120 to 140 days	40 Point(s)
13. Between 140 to 160 days	20 Point(s)
Contract Compliance (if applicable)	
14. Has the applicant had a Farm Bill Contract terminated for non-compliance?	-100 Point(s)
15. Does the applicant have an active Farm Bill contract that is currently not on schedule, in non-compliance or practices in arrears?	-50 Point(s)

Land Use:

Crop;

Resource Concerns	Practices
Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health	High Tunnel System

Ranking Score

Efficiency:

Local Issues:

State Issues:

National Issues:

Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:

**Applicant Signature Not Required on this
report for Contract Development unless
required by State policy:**

Signature Date:

Signature Date: